

**Frank Edelblut**  
Commissioner



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To the Travel and Tourism Community:

On March 15, 2020, New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu indefinitely suspended all non-essential out-of-state and international travel for New Hampshire schools as part of our state's effort to slow the spread of COVID-19.

As a result, New Hampshire schools have been forced to cancel planned trips. It is important to recognize that funding for these trips came through the hard work and individual fundraising of students and families across the state. In some cases, significant sacrifices were made by students and families to make these trip opportunities available.

Given that these cancellations are not the fault of the schools, the New Hampshire Department of Education wants to strongly encourage the many great companies that have worked to plan these trips to work with school districts and families to provide refunds for deposits and trip funds to the maximum extent possible. We recognize that travel agencies and trip organizers may have already expended these funds with other vendors, such as hotels or transportation providers. But to the extent possible, we strongly urge vendors to work toward full refunds.

Finally, ongoing and transparent communication about the process will help reassure parents and schools that you are working to secure refunds on their behalf.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Edelblut".

Frank Edelblut  
Commissioner of Education